



Aruba to Me

Page 9



Mosaic Bench from Artist Omaira Silva unveiled at Costa Linda

Page 8

ARUBA TODAY



Thursday
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Rhythms Circus Company Aruba: putting Aruba's name on the world stage



Page 8

Aruba's English news leader and ultimate guide to paradise

Americans are divided along party lines over Trump's actions in election cases

By LINLEY SANDERS and JONATHAN J. COOPER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans are deeply divided along party lines in their views of President Donald Trump's actions in the most recent criminal cases brought against him, a new poll shows, with about half saying his alleged attempt to interfere in Georgia's 2020 vote count was illegal.

The poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, which was conducted before Monday's charges in the Georgia case, also shows that about half of Americans — 53% — approve of the Justice Department indicting Trump over his efforts to remain in office after losing the 2020 election.

Continued on Page 2



Special counsel Jack Smith speaks to the media about an indictment of former President Donald Trump, Aug. 1, 2023, at an office of the Department of Justice in Washington.

Associated Press



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Americans are divided along party lines over Trump's actions in election cases

Continued from Front

The poll finds 85% of Democrats approve of the criminal charges brought Aug. 2 by Special Counsel Jack Smith, compared with 47% of independents and just 16% of Republicans. Overall, 3 in 10 Americans disapprove, including about two-thirds of Republicans. The survey suggests that the unprecedented indictments of a former president have done little to shake up a fundamental divide in the electorate: The majority of Americans disapprove of Trump, but he remains popular within the GOP.

Overall, 35% of Americans have a favorable view of Trump and 62% unfavorable. Among Republicans, though, seven in 10 view the former president favorably, and about 6 in 10 say they want him to make another run for the White House.

The poll was conducted Aug. 10-14, before Trump and 18 of his allies were indicted Monday in Georgia over their efforts to overturn the state's election results but with strong indications that charges were imminent. At the time of the survey, 51% of U.S. adults believed Trump acted illegally in that case, including 16% of Republicans. That's consistent with an AP-NORC poll conducted in June.

Trump has denied wrongdoing and says the charges against him are politically motivated as he seeks a rematch against Democratic President Joe Biden.



Former President Donald Trump waves as he steps off his plane at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Aug. 3, 2023, in Arlington, Va.

Only about 2 in 10 U.S. adults — 17% — say they have "a great deal" of confidence in the people running the Justice Department. The low level of confidence spans the political spectrum, with just 26% of Democrats, 14% of independents and 7% of Republicans saying they have a great deal of confidence in the federal law enforcement agency. About half of Americans have "only some" confidence in DOJ, while about a third have "hardly any confidence at all." Republicans are much more likely than Democrats to have hardly any confidence in the Justice Department, 48% to 18%.

"Trump is obviously running for president and the sitting administration is pushing to

have their political rival arrested and put in jail," said Cary Arnold, a 56-year-old Republican from Eldersburg, Maryland. "Just on the surface that's a very, very bad look. That's something that you would expect to see in third world countries that are run by dictators." Trump's actions did not cross the line to merit criminal charges, he said. "I have not seen anything that seemed to be illegal," Arnold said. "I know people have said that he did things illegally, but none of the things that they've said make any sense."

Trump has been indicted four times since April, but Americans do not view the indictments equally. While about half believe Trump did something illegal

when it comes to the Jan. 6 insurrection and the Georgia charges, along with the case involving classified documents found at his home in Florida, only about one-third say Trump acted illegally in allegedly covering up hush money payments to a woman who said he had an affair with her. That was the basis for charges Trump faces in New York City brought by Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg.

Overall, Americans say that Trump's actions after the 2020 presidential election did more to threaten democracy than to defend it, 54% to 19%. One-quarter of U.S. adults say he did neither. Republicans are split on the impact of Trump's decisions: 43% say he de-

fended democracy, while 23% say he threatened it. About a third of Republicans say he neither defended nor threatened democracy.

"Trump and a lot of his supporters are saying, 'They're just using this to get at him in the election,'" said David Biggar, a 60-year-old Republican from Navarre, Florida who twice voted against Trump. "I think he's being targeted because he did stuff that he needs to be tried for."

Americans largely disagree with Trump's contention that the 2020 election was stolen from him. Seven in 10 say that Biden was legitimately elected president, a number that's been consistent in the last year. But among Republicans, 57% say Biden's election was illegitimate, compared with 32% of independents and 2% of Democrats.

Treasa Howell, a 58-year-old Republican from Springfield, Missouri, said a lot of the accusations against Trump ring true, but she believes they're motivated more by politics than justice and Trump is being singled out.

"I honestly don't feel like anybody in the political arena plays 100% fair," Howell said. "I feel like it was a political indictment, but I absolutely believe it's true. And that's my problem with Trump."

But if Trump wins the GOP nomination and faces a rematch against Biden, she'll reluctantly vote for him, she said. □

Associated Press

N. Carolina House completes 1st half of veto override on gender-affirming care ban for minors

By HANNAH SCHOENBAUM
Associated Press/Report for America

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — A GOP supermajority in the North Carolina House voted Wednesday to override the Democratic governor's veto of legislation to ban gender-affirming treatments for transgender minors, putting those youth just a vote away from losing access to that care.

The vote followed by mere minutes an earlier vote by the chamber overriding Gov. Roy Cooper's veto of another bill banning transgender girls from playing on girls' sports teams from middle and high school through college.

House lawmakers voted 73-46 to surmount Cooper's veto of the bill that would bar medical professionals — with limited exceptions — from providing hormone therapy, puberty-blocking drugs and surgical gender-transition procedures to anyone under 18. Minors who began treatment before Aug. 1 could continue receiving that care under parental consent if their doctors deem it medically necessary.

Democratic state Rep. John Autry of Mecklenburg County, who has a transgender grandchild, choked up while debating the gender-affirming care



Heather Redding, left, and Elizabeth Waugh, of Orange County, North Carolina, rally for transgender rights outside the state Legislative Building in Raleigh, N.C., Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2023.

Associated Press

bill on the House floor. "Just stop it," he begged his Republican colleagues shortly before they voted to enact the law. The House vote left North Carolina one vote away from becoming the latest state to ban gender-affirming health care for transgender youth. Votes were also expected on both measures in the Senate later Wednesday to enact the legislation over Cooper's vetoes.

But the Senate's first action late Wednesday afternoon was on another veto override bid entirely. In a 27-18

vote, the Senate completed the first half of an override vote on a bill requiring public school teachers in most circumstances to alert parents before they call a student by a different name or pronoun. It would also prohibit instruction about gender identity and sexuality in K-4 classrooms, which critics have likened to the Florida law that opponents call "Don't Say Gay." The Senate immediately sent the bill to the House for a final vote Wednesday night.

The Senate has a similarly

veto-proof GOP majority as the House. If Republicans in the Senate succeed as expected, they would make North Carolina the 22nd state to enact legislation restricting or banning gender-affirming medical care for trans minors. Many of those laws are facing court challenges and advocates have promised similar challenges in North Carolina. Gender-affirming care is considered safe and medically necessary by the leading professional health associations, including the American Academy of Pe-

diatrics, the American Medical Association and the Endocrine Society. While trans minors very rarely receive surgical interventions, they are commonly prescribed drugs to delay puberty and sometimes begin taking hormones before they reach adulthood.

Parents of transgender and nonbinary children, like Elizabeth Waugh of Orange County, said they have been considering whether to move their families out of North Carolina so their children will have unrestricted access to gender-affirming care. Waugh's nonbinary child did not begin receiving treatment before Aug. 1 and would need to travel elsewhere if they decide they want to start taking hormones.

"I have felt like I had a lump in my throat for months," Waugh said Wednesday before the House vote. "Just talking to other families who are dealing with this, I mean, the pain that they are feeling, the suffering, the fear for their children — it's devastating." Local LGBTQ+ rights advocates had been bracing for House and Senate override votes expected Wednesday. They said they were expecting both bills would become law and have vowed to challenge them in court. □

Court watchdog files complaint against a judge who ordered 'religious-liberty training' for lawyers

Associated Press

A court watchdog has filed a complaint against the federal judge who ordered "religious-liberty training" for a trio of Southwest Airlines lawyers as part of their punishment for not fully following his orders in a case involving speech about abortion.

The leader of Fix the Court says U.S. District Judge Brantley Starr's choice of training conducted by a Christian legal-advocacy group is "strange and unprecedented."

Fix the Court, a small, non-partisan group known mostly for monitoring the U.S. Supreme Court, filed the judicial-misconduct petition Tuesday with the 5th Circuit Court of Appeal in New Orleans.

The group's executive director, Gabe Roth, took particular aim at the Dallas judge's selection of Alliance Defending Freedom to conduct day-long training for three Southwest lawyers in a case involving a flight attendant who said she was fired for comments

objecting to abortion. The conservative ADF has represented clients opposing abortion, same-sex marriages and transgender rights. "Starr's order sets a dangerous precedent, and he deserves sanctions himself for this awful judgment call," he said.

The judge ordered the training after Southwest changed the language of a notice that he ordered sent to employees to explain the legal prohibition against religious discrimination. □



Southwest Airlines plane prepares to land at Midway International Airport, Feb. 12, 2023, in Chicago.

Associated Press

Plea negotiations could mean no 9/11 defendants face the death penalty

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER and JENNIFER PELTZ

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The suspected architect of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and his fellow defendants may never face the death penalty under plea agreements now under consideration to bring an end to their more than decade-long prosecution, the Pentagon and FBI have advised families of some of the thousands killed. The notice, made in a letter that was sent to several of the families and obtained by The Associated Press, comes 1 1/2 years after military prosecutors and defense lawyers began exploring a negotiated resolution to the case.

The prosecution of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and four others held at the U.S. detention center in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, has been troubled by repeated delays and legal disputes, especially over the legal ramifications of the interrogation under torture that the men initially underwent while in CIA custody. No trial date has been set. "The Office of the Chief Prosecutor has been negotiating and is consider-



This Saturday March 1, 2003, photo obtained by The Associated Press shows Khalid Shaikh Mohammad, the alleged Sept. 11 mastermind, shortly after his capture during a raid in Pakistan. Associated Press

ing entering into pre-trial agreements," or PTAs, the letter said. It told the families that while no plea agreement "has been finalized, and may never be finalized, it is possible that a PTA in this case would remove the possibility of the death penalty."

Some of relatives of the nearly 3,000 people killed in the terror attacks expressed

outrage over the prospect of ending the case short of a verdict. The military prosecutors pledged to take their views into consideration and present them to the military authorities who would make the final decision on accepting any plea agreement.

The letter, dated Aug. 1, was received by at least some of the family mem-

bers only this week. It asks them to respond by Monday to the FBI's victim services division with any comments or questions about the possibility of such a plea agreement. The FBI had no comment Wednesday on the letter.

On Sept. 11, 2001, conspirators from the al-Qaida militant group seized control of jets to use them as pas-

senger-filled missiles, hitting New York's World Trade Center and the Pentagon near Washington. A fourth plane was headed for Washington but crashed in Pennsylvania after crew members and passengers tried to storm the cockpit.

It was Mohammed who presented the very idea of such an attack on the United States to al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, and who received authorization from bin Laden to craft what became the 9/11 attacks, the United States' 9/11 Commission concluded. The four other defendants are alleged to have supported the hijackers in various ways.

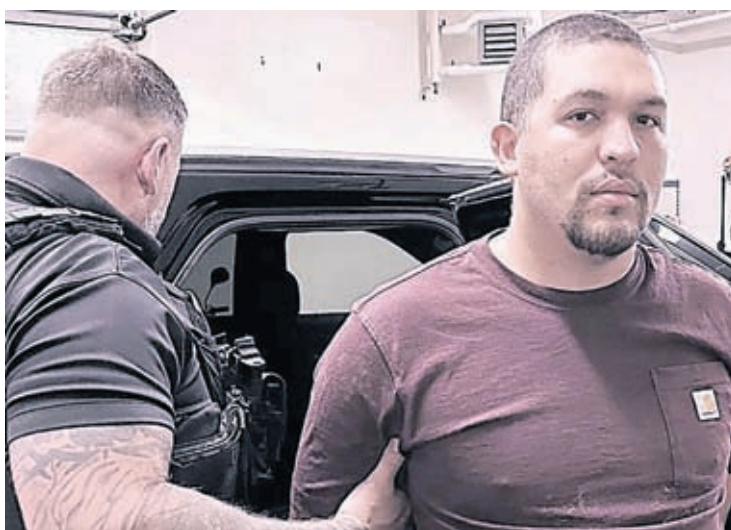
The attacks led to the U.S. "war on terror," which included U.S. invasions and prolonged wars in Afghanistan, where al-Qaida was based, and in Iraq, which had no connection with the attacks.

Jim Riches, who lost his firefighter son Jimmy in 9/11, went to Guantanamo for pretrial hearings in 2009. He remains deeply frustrated that the case remains unresolved 14 years later. He said he laughed bitterly when he opened the government's letter Monday. □

Former Brazilian military police officer convicted in 2015 deaths arrested in New Hampshire

BOSTON (AP) — A former military police officer who was convicted of multiple murders and sentenced to more than 200 years in prison for his part in a 2015 Brazilian massacre has been arrested in New Hampshire, immigration officials said.

Antônio José de Abreu Vidal Filho, 29, became the subject of an active Interpol Red Notice issued by the international criminal police organization after he was convicted of 11 murders and sentenced in June to nearly 276 years in prison, the U.S. Immigration



This image provided by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) shows former Brazilian military police officer Antonio Jose De Abreu Vidal Filho, right.

Associated Press

and Customs Enforcement and Removal Operations office based in Boston said in a news release Wednesday.

He was arrested Monday in Rye, New Hampshire and will remain in custody pending a hearing before a federal immigration judge. No further details were provided on how he was tracked to New Hampshire or his activities there. Vidal Filho was convicted by a criminal court in Brazil, along with three other military police officers, for the slaying of 11 people, three

attempted homicides and torture in the poor suburbs of Fortaleza, the capital of the Ceara state.

Vidal Filho attended the trial remotely, as he had fled Brazil for the U.S. in 2019, online news site G1 reported. In total, some 20 police officers are standing trial for the massacre.

The crimes took place in Nov. 2015 after the death of a police officer and during what's become known as the "Curio Massacre," after the name of the neighborhood in Fortaleza where they occurred. □

UN envoy says ICC should prosecute Taliban for crimes against humanity for denying girls education

By EDITH M. LEDERER
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The International Criminal Court should prosecute Taliban leaders for a crime against humanity for denying education and employment to Afghan girls and women, the U.N. special envoy for global education said.

Gordon Brown told a virtual U.N. press conference on the second anniversary of the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan on Tuesday that its rulers are responsible for "the most egregious, vicious and indefensible violation of women's rights and girls' rights in the world today."

The former British prime minister said he has sent a legal opinion to ICC prosecutor Karim Khan that shows the denial of education and employment is "gender discrimination, which should count as a crime against humanity, and it should be prosecuted by the International Criminal Court."

The Taliban took power in August 2021, during the final weeks of the U.S. and NATO forces' pullout after 20 years of war.

As they did during their previous rule of Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, the Taliban gradually reimposed



Gordon Brown, United Nations Special Envoy for Global Education and former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, holds a news conference at U.N. headquarters, on Sept. 16, 2016.

Associated Press

their harsh interpretation of Islamic law, or Sharia, barring girls from school beyond the sixth grade and women from most jobs, public spaces and gyms and recently closing beauty salons.

Brown urged major Muslim countries to send a delegation of clerics to Afghanistan's southern city of Kandahar, the home of Taliban supreme leader Hibatullah Akhundzada, to make the case that bans on wom-

en's education and employment have "no basis in the Quran or the Islamic religion" and to lift them. He said he believes "there's a split within the regime," with many people in the education ministry and around the government in the capital, Kabul, who want to see the rights of girls to education restored. "And I believe that the clerics in Kandahar have stood firmly against that, and indeed continue to issue in-

structions." The Taliban's chief spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, brushed aside questions about restrictions on girls and women in an Associated Press interview late Monday in Kabul, saying the status quo will remain. He also said the Taliban view their rule of Afghanistan as open-ended, drawing legitimacy from Islamic law and facing no significant threat. □

Czechs ratify defense treaty that makes it easier to deploy U.S. troops in Czech territory

PRAGUE (AP) — The Czech Republic on Wednesday completed the ratification of a defense treaty with the United States that deepens military cooperation and makes it easier to deploy U.S. troops in Czech territory.

Czech Prime Minister Petr Fiala's signature was the final step in the ratification process of the Defense Cooperation Agreement, which had been endorsed by both houses of Parliament in July and by President Petr Pavel on Aug 1. The document sets a le-

gal framework for possible deployment of U.S. troops in the country at a time of Russian aggression against



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg talks to U.S. army soldiers while visiting Prague, Czech Republic, on Sept. 9, 2015.

Associated Press

Ukraine. Czech Defense Minister Jana Cernochova signed the treaty together with U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin in Washington, D.C. on May 23. The U.S. has similar agreements with 24 other NATO members, including Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Romania and Bulgaria that form the eastern flank of the alliance. Any deployment of U.S. forces would still need approval by the Czech government and Parliament. □

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U.N. chief urges deployment of police special forces and military support to combat gangs in Haiti

By **EDITH M. LEDERER**
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United Nations chief urged the international community on Tuesday to deploy a multinational force comprising “police special forces and military support units” to Haiti to combat gangs with sophisticated weapons and restore security to the impoverished Caribbean nation.

Secretary-General António Guterres said in a 12-page letter to the U.N. Security Council obtained by The Associated Press that “Addressing the security situation in Haiti requires a range of coercive law enforcement measures, including active use of force in targeted police operations against heavily armed gangs.”

The letter was a response to a Security Council resolution adopted on July 14 asking Guterres to come up with “a full range of options” within 30 days to help combat Haiti’s armed gangs including a non-U.N. multinational force.

Guterres welcomed Ke-



United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres addresses the assembly during the opening session of a three-day U.N. Food and Agriculture Agency’s summit on food systems in Rome, July 24, 2023.

nya’s offer to lead an international force as well as renewed pledges of support from the Bahamas and Jamaica, and the announcement by Antigua and Barbuda that it is considering contributing to the force. He urged more countries, especially from the Americas, to contribute and “build on this new momentum.”

Gangs have overpowered

Haiti’s police, with experts estimating they now control some 80% of the capital, Port-au-Prince. There are only about 10,000 police officers for the country’s more than 11 million people, and more than 30 were killed from January to June, according to Human Rights Watch.

Guterres said the gangs have encircled the capital, effectively cutting roads

from the north, south and east of the country, and violence is spreading to the Artibonite region in central Haiti and other areas, blocking the delivery of aid and goods.

He cited reports of gangs shooting people in public spaces and their homes, burning people alive in public transportation vehicles, mutilating and executing perceived oppo-

nents, recruiting children and using sexual violence and rape against women and girls.

“Gangs have become more structured, federated, and autonomous in their efforts to confront state authority, weakening state institutions, and consolidating control over the population,” the secretary-general said. “They target police stations, courts, prisons, schools, hospitals, and strategic installations such as ports, oil terminals and major roadways.”

Haiti’s Prime Minister Ariel Henry sent an urgent appeal last October for “the immediate deployment of a specialized armed force, in sufficient quantity” to stop the gangs. However, no country stepped up to lead such a force until Kenya’s offer in late July. U.S. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield said on Aug. 1 that the United States would introduce a U.N. Security Council resolution authorizing Kenya to lead a multinational police force to fight the gangs and provide 1,000 officers. □

Associated Press

Militia clashes in Libyan capital have killed 45

By **JACK JEFFERY**
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — The death toll in this week’s clashes between rival militias in Libya’s capital rose to 45 on Wednesday as troops fanned out across Tripoli to restore calm after a 24-hour bout of fighting that was the city’s most intense violence this year.

The clashes erupted late on Monday between militiamen from the 444 brigade and the Special Deterrence Force, and continued into Tuesday evening. Tensions flared after Mahmoud Hamza, a senior commander of the 444 brigade, was allegedly detained by the rival group at an airport in Tripoli, accord-

ing to local media reports. Hamza was later released as part of deal aimed at quelling the violence, the reports said.

The death toll rose Wednesday to 45, up from the 27 dead reported Tuesday, as more casualties were confirmed, said Malek Mersset, the spokesperson for Libya’s Emergency Medicine and Support Center. An additional 146 were injured, up from 106 on Tuesday. It remains unclear how many of the dead were militiamen or civilians.

Libyan security forces patrolled the streets and fanned out across Tripoli on Wednesday. The country’s Interior Ministry said security forces were de-

ployed to areas where the fighting was most intense, including the southern Fernaj neighborhood and the al-Shouk Road. A situation room had been set up to monitor developments, but by Wednesday a tentative calm had returned to the city.

The violence underscored the fragility of war-torn Libya following the 2011 uprising turned civil war, which toppled and later killed longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi. Amid the chaos, militias grew in wealth and power, particularly in Tripoli and the west of the country.

Since 2014, Libya has been divided between rival administrations in the east



Libyan security forces stand guard in Tripoli, Libya, Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2023.

Associated Press

and the west, each supported by an array of well-armed militias and different foreign governments. Both of Libya’s legislative chambers called for an end to the bloodshed in separate statements on Tuesday. In a statement issued Wednesday, The European Union called on “all parties to continue to refrain from

armed hostilities and to engage in dialogue in order to de-escalate the situation and restore calm.”

Tripoli has seen similar episodes of violence in recent years, although most have only lasted a couple of hours. Last August, clashes between two other militia active in the capital killed at least 23 people. □

Aruba Welcomes Mr & Mrs Berge for their Anniversary



Mr. Christopher Berge & Mrs. Linda Luposello is returning for their 28th trip to celebrate their anniversary.

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Birds of Aruba



ORANJESTAD — On May 11th, 2010, the Aruba Birdlife Conservation was founded with the aim of protecting the biodiversity in general and birds in and around Aruba in particular.

Among other things, the foundation will focus on increasing the survival chances of species of wild birds by promoting their preservation and conservation. The foundation publishes the most beautiful

pictures of local birds on their social media that show us the beauty of Aruba's birds and nature in general. Aruba Today gives you a little peek with the following pictures and descriptions from the foundation's Facebook page.

The Great Egret

Serenity in Aruba's National Park, a Great Egret flying in peace. When it is peaceful and quite, beautiful things start happening in nature.

Canadian in the house

The breeding season is over and it's getting pretty cold in North America. Shore birds have started moving southwards as early as July. This wetland beauty wants to keep its toes warm. Our Canadian friends know exactly where they can do so best. A Greater Yellowlegs rediscovering Aruba's Bubali Wetlands.

Cabochoon

In its living form of so much more value than any gemstone. Aruba's smallest and most master of flight. A top pollinator. A hovering Blenchi inspecting the human who just entered his territory.

English: Blue-tailed Emerald (male)
Dutch: Blauwstaartsmaragdkolibrie (mannelijke).

Aruba's to enjoy. Aruba's to protect. ☐



Rhythms Circus Company Aruba: putting Aruba's name on the world stage



Rhythms Circus Company Aruba is a talented group of young people working daily to present their art in the form of acrobatics, dancing, acting and singing. After an impactful participation in one of America's biggest talent shows, they are now bringing their amazing talent to Aruba!

In a show full of light, music, and with performances to famous musical figures like Elvis Presley, Michael Jackson and Tina Turner, the group consisting of 15 people from various countries delights the audience with their artistic prowess at the Paseo Herencia Mall, every Wednesday and Friday starting at 7pm. Each day has a different show, so you can attend both nights for the complete experience!

The group, under the leadership of directors and creators Diego Jaramillo and Yamila Hernandez are opening the doors to the ballroom to our local audience as well as our visi-

tors so that everyone can have the privilege of experiencing this wonderful show.

Hernandez explained that the idea for this project started in 2010 when she came to work in Aruba. After being on the island for a while she decided to stay and live here, and she met Diego Jaramillo, who is currently her partner. Together they came with the idea to establish a company together with other professional artists, with the goal of living from their art.

Hernandez says that the work is hard – all of the performers are professional artists, and while the production of the show is not a challenge for them, selling the idea proved difficult since at the time, there weren't any shows of its kind on the island.

America's Got Talent

Currently they are offering a show with music, choreography and at the end, they have a shocking acrobatics ending, one that was seen by thousands of people around the world when the group travelled to Los Angeles in the United States to represent Aruba in America's Got Talent. Hernandez said that the show was very important for them to meet the public present because people could experience this performance live and right before their eyes.

Their presentation in America's Got Talent "was incredible" and they were able to meet the jury and many other artists staying there for three months. But the exhaustion and physical toll was so great that Diego suffered an accident, and because of this, they had to cancel all future commitments.



Reservations and tickets

To make a reservation to see this incredible display of creativity and acrobatics, scan the QR code which will take you directly to their website for a booking. To find more information about RCCA, please visit their Instagram page @rccaruba. □



Mosaic Bench from Artist Omaira Silva unveiled at Costa Linda



Costa Linda unveiled its own Mosaic Bench from Artist Omaira Silva of Mosaic Art Studio of Aruba which is displayed right by the lobby entrance. The design was chosen by Costa Linda and inspired by nature and the flora and fauna of Aruba, all of what forms part of Costa Linda.

Elements present on the bench are the Cactus, Aloe plant, Trupiaal, Hummingbird, Iguana and the Sea Turtle to name a few.

Omaira is a self-taught Mosaic Artist with many hours of Mosaic training and workshop experience in

Mallorca, Spain. She specializes in Murals, applying the indirect method, and Ground Mosaic projects applying the direct method using Ceramic Tiles.

The bench was unveiled in a small ceremony on August 16, 2023 in the presence of local Board Members, Management of Costa Linda, owners, guests, and Omaira.

With the Costa Linda logo in the background, this bench is now a perfect photo spot to take treasured pictures of you and your family on vacation. □

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Aruba Tourism Authority honored a loyal visitor at Casa Del Mar Beach Resort

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure to recognize a Distinguished Visitor of Aruba. This visitor was respectfully honored with a certificate acknowledging her years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honor certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three honoring levels are as follows:

- Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
- Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
- Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honoree was:

Distinguished Visitor of Aruba Ms. Ariella Egan from New Hampshire, United States

Ms. Kimberley Richardson representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of the Casa Del Mar Beach Resort bestowed the Distinguished Visitor certificate to the honoree, presented her with gifts, and also thanked her parents for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and for bringing Ms. Ariella together with them.

Top reasons for returning to Aruba, provided by Ms. Egan were:

- "Boogie boarding"
- Aruba's beaches
- "Spending time with my family and friends"
- The M's Crepe Shack at Casa Del Mar Beach Resort
- Aruba's nice sunny weather ☑



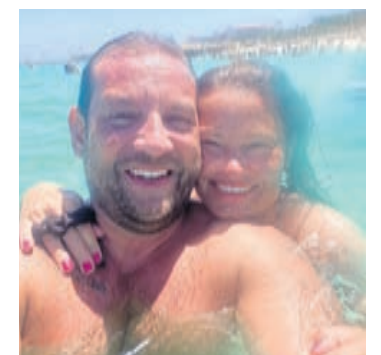
Aruba to me

ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today

Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation. Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again. For today we received a lovely message from Kurt and Marianne Chilcott from St. Catharines, Ontario canada.

They wrote to us saying; "Aruba to me, is a dream that I never want to wake up from. The Riu Antilles



is the closet thing to perfection. It's my first time in Aruba with my Wife. We are celebrating 25 years of marriage.

Thank you, Aruba for all your hospitality."

We hope you enjoyed Aruba and can't wait to see you back soon. Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! ☑



Episode 36

Get to know an old Aruban industry through Etnia Nativa; Aruba and the Cochineal bug

Aruba and the Cochineal bug

Worlds ancestral pigment farmers of the Americas cultivated a vegetarian insect that offers a high quality dye for animal, vegetal or synthetic fibers and fabrics, food preparation, pigment used in watercolor and oil paint and a market commodity. Carmine is a natural, animal coloring applied in the manufacturing of pharmaceuticals and cosmetics such as lipstick. The pigment carries the number E120. In cosmetics the substance number is CI 75470. Carmine has a crimson reddish color.

Carmine farming seems to pre date the Inca's and Aztecs. The Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortés probably took this substance with him on his journey back to Europe. However not until 1549 a full description of this substance dye etc. was described by Mathioli. The insects are known as cochineal tick (*Coccus-cacti*) and they thrive on cactus plants, especially prickly pears or tuna's (*Opuntia spp.*). The insect when full grown, gives off a reddish or carmine dye when crushed. For this purposes it is set out on the Nopal cactus, Tuna spañó (*Nopalea Cochenille* or *Dactylopius*) The tiny tick eats by extracting juice of the cactus and matures. Then it is harvested and slightly sundried. One pound (1 lbs.) of color holds about 70.000 ticks. From this crushed or leached in alcohol a dye is obtained called Cochineal Red.

Native industry was yet to be developed. A Frenchman Manuel Avril took the Cochineal- farming from Mexico to Guadeloupe and Martinique. Cochineal was mentioned to have tried this on Aruba in the years 1835. By the year 1837 under orders of Reinier F. Baron Van Raders the Dutch Majesty's brig Echo was send to proceed to the islands in order to



study this culture. The government assigned areas of cultivation, such as Socotoro, Companashi, Mon Plaisir, Sividivi, Canashito, Quivarco. In Savanata and



Sabana Grandi, Sta. Cruz. In Noord close to Shaba,

Cunucu Abao, Pos Abao, Tanki Flip, Tanki Leendert and Ponton. Remarkable was the implementation of a few other local plants in order to improve production. These were the leaves of the Catashi or Loki Loki tree (*Phyllanthus botryanthus*) that were rolled up into a cone shape which locals used to call "cartuchi" or "peperesh

". The cocoon served as a parasol, umbrella and a wind shade at the same time against the elements. This was pinned in the cactus by using a thorn of a Cadushi (*Lemaireocereus griseus*).

In Sabana Grandi there used to be some six tomb

ruins of a Dutch family with the name of Strakbein, who farmed the Cochineal bug in this area. It was an exhausting work. Soon after the aloe, another introduced plant, the cultivation of the bug began taking over in these experimental plantations. When in 1857 the Aniline dye was commercialized in Germany, the Cochineal commercial value plunged and by the year 1867 local cultivation disappeared completely.

The government in the Netherlands wanted to promote the breeding of the Cochineal bug on the Leeward Islands. The women were taught how to treat the insect with soft cactus-spines and after how to collect them in paper bags. One could make five guilders a pound when the industry was flourishing which was a good income for that time.

There are a few cases where the effect of hyperactivity is induced in small children. Also skin contact with cosmetic containing the dyeing agent can induce allergies. As pigment it is known to produce severe allergies reactions and anaphylactic shock in persons professionally in contact with its production. The pigment is used also to give vegetarian beef that all natural beef color in has imitating meat. □



Did you know about... Basic driving rules on Aruba (part 1)

(Oranjestad)—Have you ever felt confused when you're driving on the highways or backstreets of Aruba? Then we present a simple guide to some of the basic rules of Aruban traffic, along with some tips for things to look out for.

Speed limit

Legally, the speed limit on the four-lane highways is 80 km/h. This speed limit also counts for the main roads that are connected to the highways. The minimum speed is 50 km/h. Most people drive around 60 km/h on the main roads and about 70 km/h on the highways. There are also areas that indicate a speed limit on a sign; these are usually around populated and school areas.

The four-lane highways contain the left-lane, also known as the "fast" lane for each direction. Here is where vehicles can drive up to the maximum speed. However, legally it is not permitted to drive for long periods of time on the left lane. This lane is primarily designed for drivers to switch lanes before a roundabout, for example, if your exit on the roundabout is on your far left. The general lane to drive in—both at maximum and minimum speed—is on the right lane.

Roundabouts

Speaking of roundabouts, it is important to know where you have to enter and drive on the roundabout to make your exit. A good rule of thumb is to count the exits starting from your right side. So, exit 1 would be on your right; exit 2 would be straight ahead; exit 3 would be on your far left and exit 4 would lead to the road paralleled to the one you're on, heading in the other direction.

Most roundabouts have these 4 exits, so they are relatively simple. When you're driving on the four-lane highway, it is important to know when to switch to the left lane to make your



exit: if your exit is on your far left (exit 3), then you need to switch to the left lane on the highway before nearing the roundabout so you can take the path that leads you directly to your exit. If your exit is on your right or if you're going straight ahead, you can keep driving in the right lane of the highway.

It's also important to know that vehicles about to enter the roundabout must yield to those already on it. A good rule of thumb is to look out if someone is coming from your left side.

However, other roundabouts can be quite tricky to navigate...

Watty Vos Boulevard (the "paperclip" roundabout) Probably the biggest roundabout on the island, the "paperclip" roundabout on the Watty Vos Boulevard is one of the trickier roundabouts that could—and has—caused confusion among both tourists and locals. However, once you take a good look at it, it's fairly simple. The basis is just the same as a regular roundabout (left exit? left lane! etc.), but instead of having four different exits like on a regular roundabout, now you have two extra; one on the right and the other on the left side of the roundabout. The rules don't change at all, you

just have to keep an extra eye open.

Airport roundabout

Ah, yes. The infamous airport roundabout. The favorite roundabout amongst local, because of its easy (hard) lanes that never (always) cause confusion among drivers. Sarcasm aside, this roundabout can be tricky to enter, especially when you're driving from the direction of the airport heading. When you're driving away from the airport reaching the roundabout, you'll be faced with three lanes. The far right lane is to take the exit 1 out heading east (right lane of highway). The middle exit is

used for exit 1 (left lane of highway), 2 and 3. The far left exit is used to only exit on exit 3 (left lane of highway) and 4.

"Las Americas" roundabout

The Las Americas roundabout is located near the Talk of the Town hotel, west from the airport roundabout. This roundabout may look like a regular roundabout—and for the most part, it is. However, when you are driving from the east going in the direction of town, please take note that there are two exits on your right.

When you're driving towards this roundabout,

you'll notice that the road becomes wider, splitting into two lanes. The right lane is used to take the first and second exit on the right. If you want to exit straight ahead, you must drive on the left lane!

It's always scary to drive in new places where the traffic may look and work differently, but once you get it right once, you'll get the hang of it in no time. Additionally, all roundabouts and roads on Aruba have signs and arrows painted on the road to help guide you. So take your time, keep your eyes open and don't forget to wear a seat belt! ☐



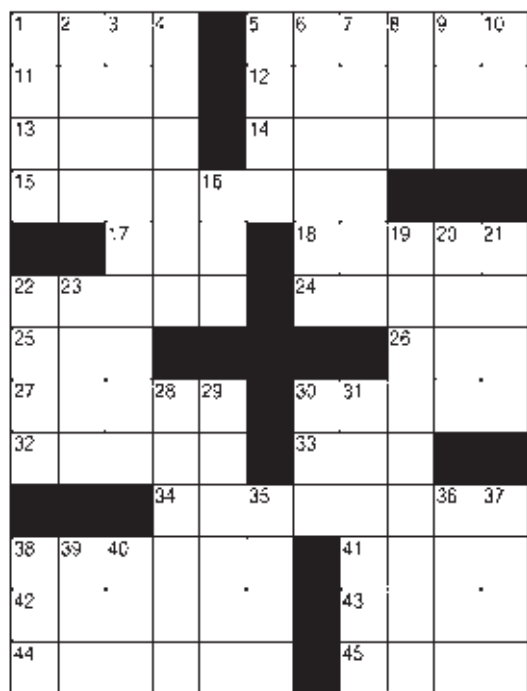
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 43 Beef cut
 - 1 Cats' quarries
 - 5 Crafty
 - 11 Fan favorite
 - 12 Trail mix bit
 - 13 Dispatch light
 - 15 Pretty sure things
 - 17 Purpose
 - 18 Like a corset
 - 22 Treat the turkey
 - 24 Skip the ceremony
 - 25 Bulldog backer
 - 26 Originally called
 - 27 Mythical weeper
 - 30 Soda bottle size
 - 32 TV's Leary
 - 33 Outback bird
 - 34 Lunar events
 - 38 Goof
 - 41 Verdi opera
 - 42 Pony Express workers
- DOWN**
- 1 Overlook
 - 2 Inking
 - 3 Puzzlement
 - 4 Heir, often
 - 5 Church area
 - 6 End a lawsuit
 - 7 Ankle bone
 - 8 First numero
 - 9 Soaking spot
 - 10 Seine summer
 - 16 Flower visitor
 - 19 Bruise
 - 20 Olympics
 - 21 Glade weapon
 - 22 Crook grazer
 - 23 "I cannot tell —"
 - 28 Singer Justin
 - 29 Chaperone
 - 30 Oahu garland
 - 31 Gazelle's kin
 - 35 Defeat
 - 36 Fix a story
 - 37 Rational
 - 38 Lingerie buy
 - 39 Gusher flow
 - 40 Pindar poem



Yesterday's answer



8-17

AXYDI,BAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three I's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

8-17

CRYPTOQUOTE

H ABHCI ICUIHCW JBZA MUX
 EZCCUA KU HV DUGR
 HDNUGAZCA ABZC ICUIHCW
 JBZA MUX EZC. — PXEHPPR
 SZPP

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: YOU CAN TELL THE DEEPEST TRUTHS WITH THE LIES OF FICTION — ISABEL ALLENDE

Millennial Money: Issuer closing your credit card? Act fast to preserve credit

By MELISSA LAMBARENA of NerdWallet

It's not uncommon for credit card issuers to close accounts. Sometimes they do so to lessen their risk when the economy is in distress, generally as a reaction to your spending activity or lack thereof. After all, issuers make money from every tap or swipe, so inactive cards aren't fruitful for them.

"If you're not paying an annual fee and you're not using the card, you're below the zero revenue line, you're actually costing the card issuer money every month," says John Ulzheimer, a credit expert formerly with FICO, a credit-scoring company, and Equifax, a major bureau that provides consumer reports. "Eventually they're going to close your account because you're not generating any swipe-fee income."

An account closure can harm your credit, but if you're fortunate, a credit card issuer might send you a notice as a courtesy beforehand. That can provide you time to make some moves to counter any negative impact to your credit scores. Regardless, if you take no actions, it could take longer for your credit to bounce back.

ASK THE ISSUER TO RECONSIDER

Before the account is officially closed, call the customer service number on the back of your card to see whether the issuer will reevaluate the decision. There's no guarantee, but there's also nothing to lose by trying. If the notice the issuer sent provided a reason for the



Credit cards are seen in Philadelphia on June 10, 2015. Associated Press

account closure, use it to make a case. For instance, if the decision is due to an inactive card, let the issuer know you plan to use the card more.

One way to ensure consistent use: Set up autopay with the card for a recurring subscription.

SEEK AN ALTERNATIVE IF THE ISSUER SAYS 'NO'

For Jake Dube, an engineer based in Ohio, there wasn't much room for negotiation when his credit card issuer changed terms and presented him with an ultimatum. He would have to pay a monthly fee or opt out and have his account closed. "I opted out and it shut the account down," he says.

An account closure can affect how much total available credit you're using. It's a key factor that impacts your credit scores. "The amount of the score impact is going to be variable based on the amount of credit card debt and the other credit cards you have on your report," Ulzheimer says.

So if a credit card issuer

refuses to keep your credit card open, try countering those effects by applying for a new one with a different issuer. □

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Red Cross	582 2219

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Jon Batiste goes galaxy-building with ambitious new album 'World Music Radio'

By **MARK KENNEDY**
AP Entertainment Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — How do you top a five-time Grammy Award-winning album that had critics applauding its rich blend of R&B, hip-hop, swing, jazz and pop? If you're Jon Batiste, you go even higher and wider.

The singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist returns this month two years after his triumphant album "We Are" with the complex "World Music Radio," a collection he calls an "expansive, genre-less, popular music concept record."

"World Music Radio" is conceived like a timeless radio broadcast from a sort of interstellar DJ, gradually taking the listener from a hip-hop, pop and dance party to soul, Latin, folk and gospel. It's like moving from a rave to church.

"I wanted to have that effect where you're traveling from Saturday night to Sunday morning and you're slowly moving towards this state of bliss, in this state of feeling this ultimate humanism and togetherness with everyone and feeling connected to the universe,"



Jon Batiste performs at the Maple Leaf Bar in New Orleans on May 2, 2023.

Associated Press

Batiste says. "World Music Radio," out Friday, isn't just a sonic trip, it's also a mesmerizing way to dial into Batiste's eclectic and wide musicality, with songs switching sounds midway and lyrics layered with symbolisms and multiple languages seeping out. Few albums can boast

a Duke Ellington vocal clip, the Muslim call to prayer and a Kenny G sax solo. "For me, playing is always a form of dreaming. And I'm constantly creating based on thoughts or conversations that I've had, words that have resonated with me or people who have helped me to be who I am

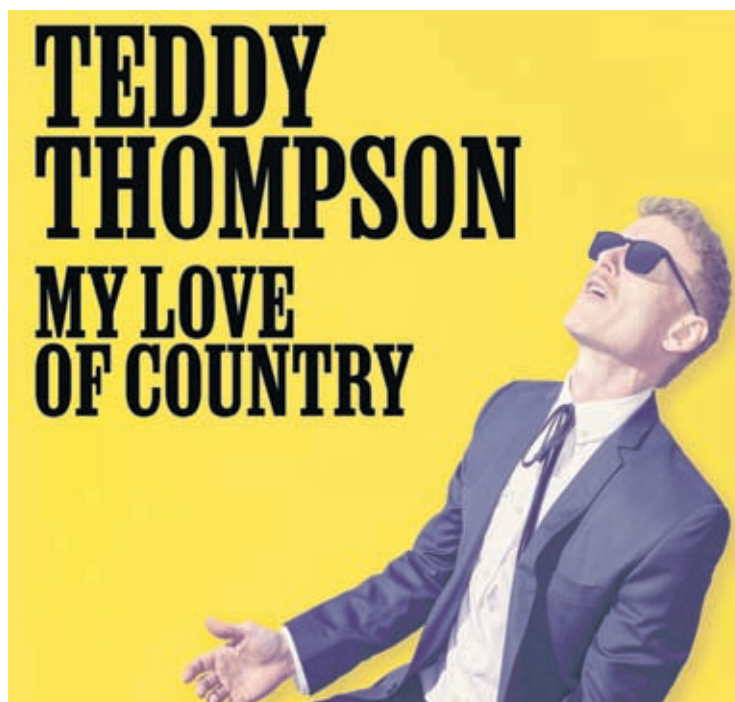
today," he says. The album begins with a salutation "Hello everybody, I'm Billy Bob Bo Bob" as Batiste sets the listener up for a spin of Earth's sounds, from the Afropop of "Be Who You Are," Johnny Cash-like "Master Power" to the Michael Jackson-esque "Call Now (504-305-8269)."

Water, so vital to the planet and so dangerous to his hometown of New Orleans, is a theme from the super pop of "Drink Water" featuring Jon Bellion and Fireboy DML to the exuberant "Raindance" to the restrained, distorted ballad "White Space," where he sings "Saved in the water/ I'm saved."

It was all a struggle at first. The singer-songwriter had amassed a massive 3 1/2 hours of new music but wasn't able to figure out a through-line. Its working title was "World Music."

"It wasn't about making a world music album, but using that as a prompt because it's really a horrendous term, if you think about it for many reasons," he says. "I went to bed kind of discouraged, not really having the sense of what it was." That's when an odd muse visited. Batiste had read about an unusual radio signal that some attribute to a being called B4, hence Billy Bob Bo Bob. What "World Music" was missing, he realized, was a DJ. He worked feverishly through the night. □

On 'My Love of Country,' Teddy Thompson shows affection for Nashville classics



This cover image released by Chalky Sounds shows "My Love of Country" by Teddy Thompson.

Associated Press

By **STEVEN WINE**
Associated Press

Teddy Thompson began a recent concert by singing George Jones' 1972 hit "A Picture of Me (Without You)," and smiled as the crowd applauded.

"That's a new song I just wrote," he joked.

Well, no. But Thompson puts his stamp on that tune and nine other classics on his latest project, an album of covers: "My Love of Country." Country music is in Thompson's DNA, even though he was born in London. His parents, Richard and Linda Thompson, are revered British folk rockers who found room for such Nashville standards as "Together Again" and "Honky

Tonk Blues" in their 1970s stage shows.

Their son has long been partial to classic country, and his zeal for the peal of a pedal steel and mandolin, and fiddle is evident on "My Love of Country." Thompson's disciplined, almost reverent interpretations shun showboating in the vocals or arrangements; his vibrant tenor is more than enough to make the songs shimmer.

Most are weepers. They range from Patsy Cline tunes and the Charlie Louvin hit "I Don't Love You Anymore" to more unpredictable selections, including "I'll Regret It All in the Morning," a drinking song written by Teddy's dad.

Among those contributing backing vocals are Vince Gill, Rodney Crowell and Aoife O'Donovan. Producer David Mansfield provides subtle support on multiple instruments while keeping the focus on the lead singer.

Thompson finds a Scottish lilt in Buck Owens' "Crying Time," makes octave leaps seem effortless on "I Fall to Pieces," and elsewhere evokes Roy Orbison.

He saves his best for last: a lovely version of "You Don't Know Me." On the final verse, Thompson climbs the scale but resists any temptation to let loose, his artful restraint somehow making the moment more moving. □

England moves into the Women's World Cup final against Spain

By JOHN PYE
AP Sports Writer

SYDNEY (AP) — Lauren Hemp didn't let the Women's World Cup semifinal match between Australia and England become the Sam Kerr show.

Hemp scored to restore England's lead eight minutes after a superb equalizer from Kerr, and then provided a perfect pass for the clincher as the Lionesses moved into their first World Cup championship game with a 3-1 victory over Australia on Wednesday.

The semifinal outcome ended a Matildas run that captivated Australia for almost a month and sent England to a matchup with Spain in the final, where the Lionesses will have a chance to bring a World Cup home for the first time since 1966.

Sarina Wiegman became the first coach to lead two countries to the Women's World Cup final, and in back-to-back tournaments. Her run with the Netherlands in 2019 ended with a loss to the United States.

On either side of that, she guided Netherlands to the European title in 2017 and then took over the England squad for its breakthrough Euro 2022 title.

"I'm the lucky one the last two tournaments I'm go-



England's Rachel Daly and England's Georgia Stanway celebrate after the Women's World Cup semifinal soccer match between Australia and England at Stadium Australia in Sydney, Australia, Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2023.

ing to the final," said Wiegman, the only female head coach of any team to reach the quarterfinals.

"You make it to finals, it's really special," she said. "I'm like, 'Am I here in the middle of a fairytale or something?'"

England dominated possession in the first half, starving the Australians of the ball and shutting down the Matildas' transitional, counter-attacking game.

It was rewarded when Ella Toone scored in the 36th

minute with a powerful right-foot shot diagonally inside the far post. A throw-in from Rachel Daly went to Hemp, who turned and sent it into the area where Alessia Russo turned the ball back past Hemp for Toone to swoop.

Kerr was in Australia's starting lineup for the first time in the tournament after overcoming a left calf injury.

Her equalizer in the 63rd gave the 75,784-strong crowd and millions of fans watching around Australia

renewed hope, but Hemp responded with a goal in the 71st and provided a perfect through ball for Russo to finish from a tight angle four minutes from the end of regulation.

"Even after Sam's goal there was no fear in the squad. We weren't nervous. We just played our football," Hemp said. "We showed the relentlessness inside the squad to make it 2-1. And then even when we're on the backfoot going into the final few min-

utes, I felt like we showed calm, composure on the ball to manage to counter-attack them and obviously make it 3-1."

England and Spain will each be playing in the Women's World Cup final for the first time at Stadium Australia on Sunday. It will be the first all-European final since 2003.

Australia will play Sweden, which lost to Spain 2-1 in the other semifinal, for third place on Saturday in Brisbane.

"We had a chance for 2-2 and a couple of minutes later it was 3-1," Australia coach Tony Gustavsson said. "It was one of those games, unfortunately."

Katrina Gorry created chances in each half of her 100th game for Australia but said the Matildas weren't able to dominate the way they needed to.

"But you know, we've got a quick turnaround and we want to win the bronze medal," she said.

After topping its group, advancing over Nigeria on penalties in the round of 16 and beating Colombia in the quarterfinals, England was playing in the semifinals for the third consecutive Women's World Cup. Australia was in the final four for the first time. □

Associated Press

Patriots announce signing of 3-time Pro Bowl running back Ezekiel Elliott

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — Running back Ezekiel Elliott is officially heading to the AFC, signing a free agent deal with the New England Patriots.

The team announced the addition of the three-time Pro Bowler on Wednesday. A person familiar with the terms told The Associated Press that the seven-year veteran with the Dallas Cowboys is joining the Patriots on a one-year deal worth \$4 million and incentives could boost his compensation to \$6 million.

Coach Bill Belichick told reporters in Green Bay,

Wisconsin, on Wednesday morning that Elliott was with the team for its two days of joint practices with the Packers in advance of its preseason game. His participation is still to be determined.

The 28-year-old ran for 68 touchdowns and more than 8,000 yards with the Cowboys. He led the NFL in rushing yards in 2016, when he was the runner-up for the AP Rookie of the Year award, and again in 2018. He also has more than 2,300 receiving yards, and 12 touchdown catches.

Elliott's yards per game

have decreased every season of his career, a trend that partly reflects the decreased usage of running backs in the NFL since the Cowboys used the No. 4 overall draft pick to select him in 2016.

He is expected to serve as a compliment to running back Rhamondre Stevenson, who is projected to be New England's lead option out of the backfield. The Patriots suffered in short-yardage situations last season, an area where Elliott excels despite showing diminished overall output at the end of his Dallas tenure. □



Dallas Cowboys running back Ezekiel Elliott (21) looks for running room as he rushes with the ball during an NFL wild-card football game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Jan. 16, 2023, in Tampa, Fla.

Associated Press

Athletes' competitiveness explain risk to bet on own games

By ERIC OLSON

AP College Football Writer Allegations of Iowa and Iowa State athletes illegally wagering on sports is one thing. Accusations that some of them bet on games in which they played, or could have, is quite another. While fans of both schools have asked why athletes would risk losing eligibility and possibly going to jail over relatively small amounts of money, National Council on Problem Gambling executive director Keith Whyte said he isn't surprised by allegations of athletes betting on their own and risking a permanent ban.

"Much of the psychology of gambling, and sports betting in particular, revolves around knowledge of the



Iowa wide receiver Arland Bruce IV runs off the field after catching a touchdown pass during the first half of an NCAA college football game against Nevada, Sept. 17, 2022, in Iowa City, Iowa.

Associated Press

game and belief in your own skill," Whyte said, "so the closer you are to the action, the more likely it is you may think that bet is a sure thing.

"So if you're an athlete who has been studying the film, it's not necessarily about controlling the outcome; it's a belief you know the outcome of a game. But there's a very fine line between knowing how a particular game is going to go because of film and experience and crossing into manipulating the game."

Of the 14 current and former Iowa and Iowa State athletes who have been charged so far with tampering with records in order to disguise their identities to state authorities and the NCAA, six allegedly bet on football games in which they played and three allegedly bet on football games in which they could have played. At least one athlete is accused of betting against his own team:

Iowa State defensive lineman Isaiah Lee made a money-line bet against the Cyclones in a 2021 game against Texas, according to a criminal complaint. Lee played 42 snaps in the game and made one tackle in ISU's 30-7 win. Lee is no longer in the program, the school confirmed this week.

The Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission said Aug. 3 that no evidence had been discovered suggesting any game outcomes were compromised. That was before Lee's alleged losing bet against the Cyclones was disclosed. IRG administrator Brian Ohorilko on Wednesday referred The Associated Press to the original statement and declined further comment.

College athletes typically attend at least one seminar each year at their school to educate them on the perils of gambling, including NCAA rules and possible penalties.

But the proliferation of legal sports wagering across the country and mobile apps that make it easy to place bets has made it a popular activity for college-aged people. □



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